

Message Text

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ACTION CU-03

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R 241506Z MAY 76
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4347
INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD
USIA WASHDC

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STATE FOR CU/EE, EURSOV; LENINGRAD FOR P&C; USIA FOR IEU

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: OEXC, UR
SUBJECT: IV PROGRAM

REFS: (A) 75 MOSCOW 17711, (B) MOSCOW 3328, (C) STATE 115493

1. P&C COUNSELOR WAS CALLED TO MFA CULTURAL DIVISION
MAY 24 FOR MEETING WITH DIVISION DEPUTY CHURLIN AND
VLADIMIR POPOV, COUNSELOR IN DIVISION. POPOV, PRESENT
AT MEETING ON US MATTERS FOR FIRST TIME SINCE EARLY 1975,
DESCRIBED AS FORMER COLLEAGUE CHURLIN'S ON UN STAFF.

2. CHURLIN READ PARAGRAPH REFERRING TO EMBASSY'S
AIDE MEMOIRE OF DECEMBER 2 AND 10. FYI: FORMER PROPOSED
SMALL DELEGATIONS VISIT USA UNDER IV PROGRAM FROM AMONG
PARTY SECRETARIES, TRANSLATORS OF AMERICAN LITERATURE AND
REPUBLIC MINISTERS OF CULTURE. DECEMBER 10 AIDE MEMOIRE
WAS AMENDMENT SAYING MINISTERS OF CULTURE SHOULD COME FROM
REPUBLICS WITH POPULATION OVER 4 MILLION. FULL TEXT
CHURLIN'S ORAL PRESENTATION, A COPY OF WHICH WAS THEN
PRESENTED TO COUNSELOR:

"IN CONNECTION WITH THE AIDE MEMOIRES OF THE USA EMBASSY IN
MOSCOW OF DECEMBER 2 AND 10, 1975, WHICH CONTAINED AN INVITATION TO
A DELEGATION OF THE UNION REPUBLIC MINISTERS OF CULTURE TO VISIT
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THE USA TO BE PRESENT AT CULTURAL MANIFESTATIONS HELD ON THE

OCCASION OF THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE USA, I AM INSTRUCTED TO INFORM OF THE UNACCEPTABILITY TO THE SOVIET SIDE OF THE INVITATION REFERRED TO, AS FORMULATED IN THE EMBASSY'S AIDE MEMOIRE OF DECEMBER 10, 1975."

THIS VIEW HAD EARLIER BEEN COMMUNICATED TO THE EMBASSY ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS, NOTABLY IN AMBASSADOR KORNIENKO'S CONVERSATION OF MARCH 3 WITH AMBASSADOR STOESSEL (.MOSCOW 3328).

3. IN SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSION, P&C COUNSELOR SUGGESTED THAT IF MFA WOULD SUGGEST 3-5 REPUBLIC MINISTERS OF CULTURE BY NAME WHO WISH VISIT THE USA THIS BICENTENNIAL SUMMER, A WAY WOULD BE FOUND TO ORGANIZE INTERNATIONAL VISITORS PROGRAM. SOVIET SIDE WISHES VERY MUCH DO THIS, CHURLIN SAID, AND, IF EMBASSY WOULD MREELY WITHDRAW ITS AIDE MEMOIRE OF DECEMBER 10, SUCH A PROPOSAL COULD BE MADE WITH PROPER REFERENCE TO THE AIDE MEMOIRE OF DECEMBER 2. OTHERWISE, THERE IS NO PRESEUTN CHANCE THAT REPUBLIC MINISTERS OF CULTURE WOULD BE NOMIATED FOR SUCH A TRIP TO STATES AS SUGGESTED.

4. EMBASSY SEES NO OBJECTION THIS PROCEDURES, AS IT IS CONVINCED SOVIETS UNDERSTAND FULLY THERE CAN BE NO INVITATION FOR OFFICIAL USG-SPONSORED TRAVEL FOR BALTIC STATES MINISTERS OF CULTURE. ADVISE.

5. AS FOR OTHER CATEGORIES OF DECEMBER 2 AIDE MEMOIRE, CHURLIN SAID "RESPONSIBLE ORGANIZATIONS" SEIZED OF MATTER AND THE EMBASSY WOULD SOON HAVE RESPONSE FROM THE MFA.
STOESSEL

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